

***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended)      An inhalable, stable formulation comprising methacholine chloride at a concentration of from 0.025 to 25 mg/ml dissolved in a buffer solution having a pH in the range of 4 to 5, wherein said buffer solution is an acetate buffer solution containing 0.044 to 15 mM ~~less than 0.2%~~ acetate or a citrate buffer solution containing 3.87 mM or less ~~than 0.1%~~ citrate.

2. (Previously presented)      The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the pH of the buffer solution is in the range of 4.5 to 5.0.

3. (Previously presented)      The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the pH of the buffer solution is in the range of 4.5 to 4.7.

4. (canceled)

5. (Previously presented)      The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the acetate buffer solution has an acetate concentration of 4.5 to 8.5 mM.

6. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 5, wherein the acetate concentration is 4.8 mM.

7. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 1, which has been filter sterilized by aseptic filtration.

8. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1, which additionally comprises a preservative.

9. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1, which additionally comprises sodium chloride.

10. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1, which is provided in a sealed container.

11. (Original) The formulation according to claim 10, wherein the sealed container comprises a stopper.

12. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 for use in bronchoprovocation testing.

13-18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) A packaged pharmaceutical product comprising a formulation according to claim 1 in a sealable container.

20. (Original) The packaged pharmaceutical product according to claim 19, wherein the container is a vial or an ampoule constructed of materials generally accepted for pharmaceutical preparations.

21. (Currently amended) The packaged pharmaceutical product according to claim 20, wherein said vial is sealed using a suitable closure system to ensure sterility.

22-26. (Canceled)